

Transportation

PUBLIC 22 An Act to Enhance Integration of Transportation and Land Use Planning

LD 463

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCLAUGHLIN DAMON	OTP	

Public Law 2003, chapter 22 requires the Department of Transportation to adopt a major substantive rule that establishes linkage between the Sensible Transportation Policy Act and comprehensive planning and land use regulation laws. The rule must also promote investment incentives for communities that adopt and implement land use plans that minimize over-reliance on the state highway network.

PUBLIC 25 An Act To Improve the Safety of Public Roads EMERGENCY

LD 571

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COWGER SAVAGE	OTP-AM	H-74

Public Law 2003, chapter 25 authorizes the Secretary of State to suspend without a hearing the license of a motor vehicle operator who, as a condition of bail, has been ordered not to drive. If the bail condition restricts but does not completely preclude vehicle operation, the Secretary of State is authorized to issue a restricted license containing those restrictions. The law also eliminates the requirement that the Secretary of State notify the driver of an opportunity for a hearing when the license suspension or issuance of a restricted license is based upon a bail order or condition of release. The law is offered in memory of Nicholas Grant, a resident of Hallowell killed in an automobile accident on July 17, 2002.

Public Law 2003, chapter 25 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 1, 2003.

PUBLIC 32 An Act To Simplify the Bonding Limitations of the Maine Turnpike Authority

LD 603

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH PH SAVAGE	OTP	

Public Law 2003, chapter 32 establishes one statutory cap for revenue bonds issued by the Maine Turnpike Authority and eliminates the existence of three separate revenue bond categories.

Transportation

PUBLIC 40 **An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the**
EMERGENCY **Expenditures of State Government and Highway Funds and**
 Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper
 Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June
 30, 2004 and June 30, 2005

LD 1324

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
USHER	OTP-AM MAJ	H-67
HATCH PH	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 40 does the following:

Part A makes allocations from the Highway Fund;

Part B makes allocations from the Highway Fund representing reduction proposals or adjustments;

Part C authorizes the Department of Public Safety to charge an overhead rate of 5% to the Maine Turnpike Authority for the expenditures of the Maine State Police Turnpike Enforcement program. It also authorizes the Department of Public Safety to reclassify 4 positions; and

Part D authorizes the State Budget Officer to calculate and transfer various statewide personal service savings.

Public Law 2003, chapter 40 was enacted as an emergency measure effective July 1, 2003.

PUBLIC 41 **An Act To Make Additional Allocations From the Highway Fund**
EMERGENCY **and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and To**
 Change Certain Provisions of State Law Necessary to the Proper
 Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June
 30, 2003

LD 1379

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
USHER	OTP-AM	H-69
HATCH PH		

Public Law 2003, chapter 41 does the following:

Part A makes allocations of funds for fiscal year 2002-03;

Part B makes allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes;

Part C authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services on behalf of the Department of the Secretary of State to enter into financing arrangements for the acquisition of software and systems for a motor vehicle database and computer system to support the operations of the Department of the Secretary of State as approved in Public Law 2001, chapter 361, section 35.

Transportation

It also authorizes the Department of Transportation to establish lease-purchase contracts for the procurement of vans, buses and other transportation vehicles;

Part D amends Public Law 1997, chapter 674, the authority for lease-purchase for engineering vehicles or equipment and other vehicles and equipment for Motor Transportation Service;

Part E lapses funds from the Highway Fund Compensation and Benefits Plan to the unallocated balance of the Highway Fund;

Public Law 2003, chapter 41 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 11, 2003.

PUBLIC 67 An Act To Honor Purple Heart Award Recipients BY REQUEST LD 422

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NORBERT	OTP-AM	H-68

Public Law 2003, chapter 67 eliminates the motor vehicle registration fee charged to a Purple Heart medal recipient that is issued a set of Purple Heart registration plates.

PUBLIC 78 An Act To Allow Fire and Emergency Medical Services Response Vehicles To Display One Blue Light at the Rear of the Vehicle LD 464

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BULL	OTP MAJ	
SAVAGE	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 78 allows an ambulance, an emergency medical services vehicle, a fire department vehicle, a fire vehicle and a hazardous material response vehicle to be equipped with one blue light mounted at the rear of the vehicle, so that the light is visible to approaching traffic.

PUBLIC 92 An Act to Enhance School Zone Safety LD 12

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARLEY	OTP-AM	H-119

Public Law 2003, chapter 92 allows a municipality to designate a school zone other than the zone currently defined in law if the municipality has the approval of the Department of Transportation and the Chief of State Police, and the municipality is in compliance with the latest edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices published by the Federal Highway Administration.

Transportation

PUBLIC 97 An Act To Enhance Enforcement of Safety Zone Laws

LD 837

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BULL DAMON	OTP-AM	H-102

Public Law 2003, chapter 97 imposes a minimum fine of \$250 for failure to comply with safety requirements governing drivers approaching or passing a stationary authorized emergency vehicle that is using an emergency light.

PUBLIC 111 An Act To Allow the Maine Turnpike Authority To Benefit from Advantageous Interest Rates

LD 604

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE	OTP-AM	S-34

Public Law 2003, chapter 111 authorizes the Maine Turnpike Authority to enter into agreements that may provide a subsequent advantage to the authority based on future interest rates.

PUBLIC 117 An Act To Increase the Availability of Handicapped Parking Spaces for People with Disabilities

LD 424

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARLEY	OTP-AM	H-165

Public Law 2003, chapter 117 allows municipalities to apply time limits to on-street parking spaces reserved for handicapped persons.

PUBLIC 119 An Act To Enhance Vistas

LD 788

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GAGNON USHER	OTP-AM	S-35

Public Law 2003, chapter 119 allows the Department of Transportation, in consultation with a municipality, to preserve and develop the natural scenic beauty along and adjacent to any state or state aid highway to integrate the public improvement with the aesthetics of the area traversed by the highway, particularly along those areas of the highway that constitute the entrance to that municipality. It requires the Department of Transportation to consult with each municipality traversed by a state or state aid highway on the placement of utility poles and signs within the boundaries of that municipality. The law also requires the Department of Transportation to take into

Transportation

consideration the interests of a municipality as to the location of any state and state aid highway construction or alteration within the boundaries of that municipality.

PUBLIC 125	An Act To Create Experimental Motor Vehicle Plates and Registration	LD 690
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u> ANNIS	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-137
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Public Law 2003, chapter 125 establishes registration plates for experimental motor vehicles. The law requires experimental motor vehicle inventors to register with the Secretary of State in order to obtain experimental motor vehicle plates. The law also requires the Secretary of State to adopt rules to establish the application criteria and process by which a person may obtain an experimental motor vehicle plate. It also establishes equipment, operation and insurance standards for experimental motor vehicle registration.

PUBLIC 128	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Antique Vehicles	LD 365
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PEAVEY-HASKELL SAVAGE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-149
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Public Law 2003, chapter 128 allows an antique vehicle to pull a trailer or semitrailer as long as the vehicle is being used for recreational purposes or for exhibitions, club activities, parades or other functions of public interest and is not the owner's primary mode of transportation of passengers or goods.

PUBLIC 132 EMERGENCY	An Act To Allow Modular Home Transporters To Obtain Trailer Transit Plates	LD 323
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u> JOY BENNETT R	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-160
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Public Law 2003, chapter 132 allows businesses that transport modular homes or frames for transporting modular homes to apply for a trailer transit license and plate.

Public Law 2003, chapter 132 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 13, 2003.

Transportation

PUBLIC 133 An Act To Clarify Ownership Rights to Repossessed Vehicles

LD 430

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAYO USHER	OTP-AM	S-60

Public Law 2003, chapter 133 clarifies that ownership of a titled vehicle vests in the lienholder when the vehicle is repossessed by a lienholder that is a supervised financial organization, subject to the rights granted to the owner and the duties imposed on the lienholder under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 9-A, Article 5, Part 1 and Title 11, Article 9-A, Part 6.

PUBLIC 140 An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws Pertaining to Mufflers

LD 819

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKENNEY SAWYER	OTP-AM	H-178

Public Law 2003, chapter 140 creates an exception to the current motor vehicle statutory provisions that prohibit loud exhaust noise by allowing exhaust systems that do not exceed 95 decibels as measured in accordance with the Society of Automotive Engineers standard J-1169. The law applies to motor vehicles with the exception of motorcycles.

PUBLIC 144 An Act To Amend Motor Vehicle Frame Height Laws

LD 818

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKENNEY	OTP-AM	H-122

Public Law 2003, chapter 144 modifies the standard for measuring the frame height of a motor vehicle.

PUBLIC 146 An Act To Clarify Inspection Standards Related to Vehicle Wheel Size

LD 737

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SMITH N	OTP	

Public Law 2003, chapter 146 codifies 2 rules that are currently found in the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police's "Maine Motor Vehicle Inspection Manual." The law requires vehicles to have tires that meet or exceed the load and speed rating of the original equipment tires. The law also requires the overall diameter of a wheel, with the tire, that has an altered rim to be within the vehicle manufacturer's specifications.

Transportation

PUBLIC 152 **An Act Pertaining to Trustee Services for the Maine Turnpike Authority** **LD 906**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> HATCH PH USHER	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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Public Law 2003, chapter 152 clarifies that the Maine Turnpike Authority may obtain trustee and similar services from any bank or financial institution.

PUBLIC 166 **An Act To Make Technical Amendments to Truck Size and Weight Laws** **LD 1457**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> COLLINS SAVAGE	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-177
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Public Law 2003, chapter 166 amends the truck size and weight laws as follows:

1. It clarifies that certain definitions apply to the entire Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A;
2. It restores the gross vehicle weight reduction provisions for shorter wheelbase 6-axle combination vehicles that were inadvertently repealed in 1999;
3. It provides that an overlimit permit will also cover the trailer or semitrailer used to haul the overlimit load, in the event that the trailer or semitrailer also exceeds normal width or length limits;
4. It clarifies that the same length provisions apply on the network designated by the Commissioner of Transportation for double 28 1/2 trailer-semitrailer vehicles as would apply on the national highway network; and
5. It repeals the lift axle prohibition for vehicles hauling semitrailers between 48 feet and 53 feet in length.

PUBLIC 183 **An Act Relating to Motorcycles and Driver Education** **LD 894**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> PENDLETON GERZOFSKY	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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Public Law 2003, chapter 183 requires driver education courses, including motorcycle driver education, to include instruction that imparts the understanding and skills necessary to operate a motor vehicle safely in a situation in which a motorcycle is sharing the road with that motor vehicle.

Transportation

PUBLIC 209 An Act to Require Flashing Lights for Private Snow Plows

LD 197

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENNETT P MARTIN	OTP-AM MAJ ONTP MIN	H-25

Public Law 2003, chapter 209 reduces the minimum allowable candlepower of lights on vehicles used for plowing snow on private ways from 1,000,000 to 50 candlepower and requires that those vehicles use such a light whenever the vehicle enters a public way while engaged in a plowing activity.

PUBLIC 222 An Act To Allow the Early Submission of an Application To Become Licensed as a Motor Vehicle Inspector

LD 1509

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THOMAS	OTP-AM	H-243

Public Law 2003, chapter 222 allows a person to submit an application and complete testing for an inspection mechanic certificate up to 6 months prior to the applicant's 18th birthday, but does not allow the Bureau of State Police to issue the certificate until the applicant is 18 years of age.

PUBLIC 235 An Act To Ensure That Title Applications are Timely Delivered

LD 290

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
O'NEIL MAYO	OTP-AM	H-242

Public Law 2003, chapter 235 allows the Secretary of State to collect a \$125 penalty if an application, certificate of title or other document required to be delivered to the Secretary of State is not delivered to the Secretary of State within 20 days.

PUBLIC 240 An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

LD 1233

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCKENNEY	OTP-AM	H-256

Public Law 2003, chapter 240 exempts used motor vehicle dealers who obtain motor vehicles at an auction outside the State from the requirement that they obtain from the sellers of those vehicles a written disclosure statement, if the dealer clearly specifies on the written disclosure statement required by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 1475, subsections 1 and 2-A that the vehicle was acquired at an out-of-state auction and that historical information regarding mechanical defects and substantial damage is not available.

Transportation

The law also provides for timely delivery of documentation necessary for the transfer of title to motor vehicles. It allows a motor vehicle dealer to obtain all pertinent information about existing liens on a vehicle that a customer wants to trade in toward the purchase of another vehicle. It also clarifies that a lienholder, at the request of the owner, is required to disclose only the existence and identity of subordinate lienholders listed on the certificate of title, the certificate of salvage or other written documentation held by the lienholder.

PUBLIC 253	An Act To Repeal the Provision of Law Requiring Permits for 53-foot Trailers	LD 1467
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
USHER HATCH PH	OTP-AM	H-245

Public Law 2003, chapter 253 increases the annual registration fee for a camp trailer or semitrailer exceeding 2,000 pounds from \$18 to \$20. It increases the fee for a semipermanent registration plate from \$10 to \$12 for each semitrailer and increases the fee for a 20-year semipermanent semitrailer registration plate from \$10 to \$12 per year for each registration. It also repeals the requirement that a 53-foot semitrailer permit must be obtained from the Secretary of State in order for a single semitrailer whose total length exceeds 48 feet but does not exceed 53 feet to be operated in combination with a truck tractor on certain highways.

Public Law 2003, chapter 253 takes effect January 1, 2004.

PUBLIC 256	An Act To Declare Maine Aviation and Aerospace Education Week	LD 1599
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>

Public Law 2003, chapter 256 designates the 3rd week in April as Maine Aviation and Aerospace Education Week.

PUBLIC 266	An Act To Establish a Definition for Biodiesel Fuels	LD 441
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KNEELAND	OTP-AM	S-135

Public Law 2003, chapter 266 clarifies that the definition of "distillates" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 3202 includes "biodiesel fuel." The law defines "biodiesel fuel" as renewable fuel composed of mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats that is registered with the United States Environmental Protection Agency as a fuel and a fuel additive under the federal Clean Air Act, Section 211(b), 42 United States Code, Section 7545 and as otherwise specified in the American Society for Testing Materials Standard D6751-02a or its subsequent Standard Specification for Biodiesel Fuel (B100) Blend Stock for Distillate Fuels.

Transportation

PUBLIC 286 An Act To Protect Young Drivers and Passengers

LD 1439

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVAGE USHER	OTP-AM	S-159

Public Law 2003, chapter 286 establishes a 3-step graduated licensing system for new drivers under 21 years of age consisting of a supervised instruction permit, an intermediate license and an unrestricted license. The law prohibits a person who has been issued an instruction permit or an intermediate driver's license from driving while using a mobile telephone. The law also requires mandatory license suspensions for violations occurring during the term of provisional licenses.

PUBLIC 293 An Act To Clarify and Update the Laws Concerning the Types of Transportation Vehicle Used To Transport Children

LD 1018

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARLEY	OTP-AM	H-333

Public Law 2003, chapter 293 establishes a definition for an "allowable alternative vehicle" to address an existing conflict between current state and federal regulations regarding transportation services for school children. Chapter 293 authorizes the limited use of allowable alternative vehicles for school transportation with specific exemptions from current laws regarding equipment standards for school buses. The law also exempts certain vehicles used for the transport of children to nonschool-based Head Start facilities from the equipment, operator and inspection requirements applicable to school buses until January 1, 2006.

PUBLIC 295 An Act To Protect Lienholders of Titled Vehicles EMERGENCY

LD 1062

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RICHARDSON J MAYO	OTP-AM	H-299

Public Law 2003, chapter 295 requires the Secretary of State to provide notice to a lienholder with a lien date more than 66 months old by both regular mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, that the lien will be assumed to be satisfied unless the lienholder objects in writing within 30 days of either receipt of the notice, as evidenced by the return receipt, or 45 days of mailing by the Secretary of State in the event the lienholder refuses delivery of the notice by certified mail.

Public Law 2003, chapter 295 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 27, 2003.

Transportation

**PUBLIC 311 An Act To Allow the Maine Turnpike Authority To Allow the
Purchase of Nontoll Services by Electronic Toll Collection Patrons**

LD 1420

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH PH USHER	OTP	

Public Law 2003, chapter 311 authorizes the Maine Turnpike Authority to develop programs to allow electronic toll collection system patrons to purchase non-toll services with their electronic toll collection system devices.

PUBLIC 340 An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

LD 1520

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
USHER HATCH PH	OTP-AM	H-371

Public Law 2003, chapter 340 amends the motor vehicle statutes as follows:

1. It changes an incorrect reference from the Commissioner of Public Safety to the Bureau of State Police in regard to rule-making authority;
2. It changes the designation of rules adopted by the Chief of the State Police and authorized under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 1769 to routine technical rules;
3. It clarifies the provisions regarding fog lights;
4. It defines a "nitrous oxide system" and allows its use on a public way if all canisters of nitrous oxide have been removed from the motor vehicle;
5. It requires that the dump body of a dump truck either be lowered to the down position, locked or blocked in the up position when the dump truck is being repaired or when it is unattended;
6. It prohibits a motor vehicle operator from passing in the breakdown lane or on the shoulder of a limited-access highway;
7. It allows for the submission of motor vehicle accident forms to the Chief of the State Police via electronic format; and
8. It repeals the prohibition against breaking the seal on a refrigerated load.

Transportation

PUBLIC 362 **An Act To Authorize a Pilot Project To Allow Commercial Vehicles at Canadian Weight Limits Access to the Woodland Commercial Park in Baileyville** **LD 1565**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
USHER	OTP-AM MAJ	H-410
SHOREY	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 362 authorizes the Commissioner of Transportation to conduct a pilot project allowing certain commercial vehicle configurations at Canadian weight limits to travel from the planned Calais - St. Stephen Bridge to the junction of U.S. Route 1 and U.S. Route 9 in Baileyville. The law requires trucks participating in the pilot project to display a credential obtained for a fee from the Secretary of State. The law also directs the Secretary of State to adopt routine technical rules to implement the credentialing process.

PUBLIC 363 **An Act To Provide Incentives for Development and To Amend Traffic Movement Permit Standards** **LD 1452**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH PH	OTP-AM	S-169
USHER		

Public Law 2003, chapter 363 revises existing incentives that guide the location of developments generating more than 100 cars per hour. It relaxes the standard for projects in growth areas that reuse currently developed land and buildings with a proposed increase in building footprint of not more than 10% by limiting traffic mitigation requirements to improvements to entrances and exits of a project. Current law provides this incentive only for conversion of existing buildings.

Development incentives do not apply to developments with an entrance or exit on a high-speed arterial highway and are provided only if a project includes traffic demand management strategies. It also prevents a licensing authority from issuing a permit for a building or use when a driveway, entrance or traffic movement permit is required until after such a permit has been obtained from the Department of Transportation

PUBLIC 380 **An Act To Assist Regional Transportation Providers To Comply with the Booster Seat Law** **LD 644**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRESSEY	OTP-AM	H-161
SAVAGE		H-407 USHER
		S-226 HATCH PH

Public Law 2003, chapter 380 expands the definition of a "federally approved child restraint system" to include lap-belt-only systems and other federally approved devices such as special harnesses and vests. The law allows children over 4' 7", regardless of age or weight, to use a vehicle's lap and shoulder belt system instead of a booster

Transportation

seat. The law also exempts nonprofit, municipal or contracted transportation service providers from securing a child less than 8 years of age and who weighs at least 40 pounds but less than 80 pounds in a federally approved child restraint system until February 1, 2005, except that the operator must ensure that the child is properly secured in a seat belt. The law further requires that written warnings be issued for a violation of the booster seat portion of the law until September 1, 2003, after which a fine may be imposed.

PUBLIC 397 **An Act Authorizing the Operation of Low-speed Vehicles on** **LD 393**
EMERGENCY **Certain Roads**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARLEY	OTP-AM	H-357
HALL		S-173 ROTUNDO

Public Law 2003, chapter 397 enacts provisions for the registration and use of low-speed vehicles on roads with speed limits up to 35 miles per hour. It authorizes the registration and use of low-speed vehicles in certain municipalities and islands beginning on June 1, 2003. For all other jurisdictions, the registration and use of these vehicles is authorized beginning September 1, 2003. A municipality may prohibit use of low-speed vehicles by municipal ordinance. A municipality or the Department of Transportation may prohibit the use of low-speed vehicles on roads when such restriction is necessary for safety.

Public Law 2003, chapter 397 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 3, 2003.

PUBLIC 431 **An Act to Allow Certain Women Recovering from Childbirth To Be** **LD 1049**
 Issued Temporary Handicapped Parking Permits

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FISCHER	OTP-AM MAJ	H-409
DAMON	ONTP MIN	

Public Law 2003, chapter 431 authorizes the Secretary of State to issue temporary disability placards to certain women who are recovering from childbirth. The law allows temporary placards to be issued for a period of one week after cesarean section delivery and for a time determined by the patient's physician for a preterm infant.

PUBLIC 434 **An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws** **LD 1590**
EMERGENCY

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HATCH PH	OTP-AM	S-237
USHER		

Public Law 2003, chapter 434 makes the following changes to the motor vehicle laws.

Transportation

1. It requires manufacturers and distributors of motor vehicles to apply for a license for each line make;

Transportation

2. It amends the definitions of "commercial motor vehicle" and "hazardous material" to comply with federal definitions;
3. It requires the Secretary of State to adopt rules establishing fees for records of databases pertaining to driver's licenses and motor vehicles and for the electronic transmittal of records;
4. It makes sensitive records and information concerning information technology systems confidential;
5. It allows a for hire passenger vehicle to temporarily replace a disabled vehicle without having hire plates on the substitute vehicle, provided that the substitute vehicle is covered by adequate insurance;
6. It allows the Secretary of State to restrict the issuance of certain vanity plate configurations;
7. It clarifies that the one-day grace provision for a violation of statutes regarding fuel tax identification decals applies only to the display of fuel decals and not to the filing of fuel tax reports and the payment of fuel taxes;
8. It provides that a licensed recycler is exempt from additional licensing fees if already licensed as a used or new vehicle or equipment dealer;
9. It clarifies that vehicles weighing more than 10,000 pounds may be operated with dealer plates provided the vehicle does not contain a load;
10. It prohibits a motor vehicle dealer or an owner of a body shop, transmission shop or garage from charging a customer a fee for the use of a loaner plate;
11. It clarifies that in the case of a conflict between federal and state law, rule or regulation concerning the implementation and enforcement of the federal Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act and regulations adopted under that Act, federal law or regulation must apply and take precedence;
12. It provides that a license applicant who has not been licensed to operate a motor vehicle in this State or in another jurisdiction within the past 5 years must pass a complete examination;
13. It increases the fee assessed for failure to appear for a scheduled driver's license examination;
14. It repeals the provision exempting persons 65 years of age and older from the picture license requirement;
15. It clarifies the fee for duplicate licenses and increases license renewal fees;
16. It establishes a 5-year commercial driver's license for persons under 65 years of age consistent with American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration recommendations;
17. It clarifies that an accident report may be submitted to the Chief of State Police in electronic format and requires the Chief of the State Police to send all police accident reports to the Secretary of State;
18. It repeals the requirement that a person involved in an accident file a written report with the Secretary of State within 48 hours after the accident;
19. It clarifies the periods of license suspension that apply to administrative determinations for excessive blood-alcohol level made by the Secretary of State;

Transportation

20. It implements the requirements of the federal USA PATRIOT ACT relating to security threat assessment for individuals applying for or receiving hazardous material endorsement for a commercial driver's license;
21. It delays the effective date for the implementation of the requirement that a company insuring a motor vehicle notify the Secretary of State when insurance coverage is cancelled to January 1, 2005. This provision was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 5, 2003; and
22. It requires that the Secretary of State report to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by April 1, 2004 on the status of the implementation of the electronic notification of insurance cancellation.

Unless otherwise noted above, this law takes effect October 1, 2003.

PUBLIC 490	An Act To Make Supplemental Highway Allocations for the	LD 1322
EMERGENCY	Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain	
	Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State	
	Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2004 and June	
	30, 2005	

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> USHER HATCH PH	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-589
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Public Law 2003, chapter 490 does the following:

Part A makes supplemental allocations from the Highway Fund;

Part B makes supplemental allocations from the Highway Fund for approved reclassifications and range changes;

Part C makes an additional supplemental allocation from the Highway Fund; and

Part D allows a low-speed vehicle loaned to a municipality by a dealer to be subject to the same registration and title requirements and exemptions as other vehicles loaned by a dealer to a municipality.

This law was passed as an emergency measure effective June 23, 2003.

PUBLIC 496	An Act To Restrict Use of Auto Dealer Plates	LD 1028
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<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MILLS P	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-429
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Public Law 2003, chapter 496 requires the Secretary of State to reduce the number of dealer plates to one upon the renewal of a motor vehicle dealer license if the motor vehicle dealer sells fewer than 12 vehicles through retail sales in a 12-month period and prohibits the Secretary of State from issuing a dealer plate for personal use. The law further requires that upon second application for renewal, a motor vehicle dealer must be denied renewal of

Transportation

the license if the dealer sold fewer than 4 motor vehicles through retail sales in the previous license year and prevents a motor vehicle dealer who is denied license renewal from reapplying for one year. This law does not apply to a motor vehicle dealer who holds an auction business license.

**PUBLIC 498 An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Task Force on
Rail Transportation and Correct an Inconsistency**

LD 599

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN	OTP-AM	H-400 USHER S-136 S-295 CATHCART

Public Law 2003, chapter 498 directs the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development to ensure that transportation needs and the potential use of rail are considered when economic development projects are planned. It establishes a freight transportation advisory council in statute. It requires the Commissioner of Transportation to seek the review of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters prior to the dismantling of state-owned railroad tracks. It increases the maximum allowable reimbursement to railroad companies for maintaining a railroad crossing from \$1,500 to \$2,500 per crossing. It directs the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation to review and make recommendations for statutory revisions to Maine tax laws affecting railroads and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to implement recommendations during the Second Regular Session of the 121st Legislature. It repeals the tax credit cap on the railroad excise tax.

Certain provisions of Chapter 498 with an impact on the General Fund have a delayed effective date of July 1, 2005. These provisions direct all revenue from the railroad excise tax to be deposited in the Railroad Preservation and Assistance Fund and all use taxes paid on fuel consumed by vehicles operating on rails and eligible for a refund from the gas tax to be deposited in the Railroad Preservation and Assistance Fund. Also effective July 1, 2005 is a provision that amends Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 2602 to provide for fines from the over-100,000-pounds violations to be deposited in the Highway Fund in the same manner as other fines for weight violations.

**PUBLIC 502 An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Storage of Sand and Salt
and To Provide Funding for State and Municipal Storage Facilities**

LD 1414

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
USHER HATCH PH	OTP-AM	H-428 S-315 HATCH PH

Public Law 2003, chapter 502 amends the Highway Fund budget for the 2003-2004 fiscal year to provide \$327,000 in funding for the construction of salt and sand storage facilities that will be owned by the Department of Transportation and for the reimbursement of municipal expense in constructing salt and sand storage facilities.

The law requires the Department of Transportation to report annually to the Department of Environmental Protection regarding expenditures for sand and salt storage areas. The law also exempts the Department of Transportation from violation of best management practice rules governing sand and salt storage adopted by the

Transportation

Department of Environmental Protection if the Department of Transportation complies with the reporting requirements in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 451-A.

P & S 7 An Act To Increase the Debt Limit of the Rockland Port District LD 621

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCNEIL	OTP	
SAVAGE		

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 7 raises the debt limit of the Rockland Port District from its 1951 limit of \$100,000 to \$600,000 based on calculations converting the value in today's worth.

P & S 12 An Act To Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority LD 1153
Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year
Ending December 31, 2004

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	

Private and Special Law 2003, chapter 12 makes allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2004 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

RESOLVE 1 Resolve, To Name the Washington County Portion of US Rt. 9 the LD 482
Tony Tammaro Memorial Highway

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BUNKER	OTP	
SHOREY		

Resolve 2003, chapter 1 names the Washington County portion of United States Route 9 the Tony Tammaro Memorial Highway.

Transportation

RESOLVE 2 **Resolve, to Designate Interstate 95 from Augusta to Houlton as the Purple Heart Trail** **LD 14**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> MARLEY HALL	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-13
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Resolve 2003, chapter 2 directs the Department of Transportation to designate that part of Interstate 95 that starts in Augusta and continues through to Houlton as the Purple Heart Trail and erect appropriate signs along the highway to proclaim this designation. It also directs the Department of Transportation to continue to maintain signs along the highway in that area memorializing Brian M. Jewett.

RESOLVE 3 **Resolve, Regarding State Designation of Memorials Honoring Maine's Vietnam War Veterans** **LD 357**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> TREADWELL SAWYER	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-26
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Resolve 2003, chapter 3 designates the State Vietnam Veterans' Memorial located in Capitol Park in Augusta as the official state memorial to honor the Vietnam War veterans of Maine. It allows that, notwithstanding this designation, the Legislature may designate other monuments, structures or property in other locations throughout the State as state memorials in honor of those veterans. It also designates a monument to be erected in Bangor on the grounds of the Cole Land Transportation Museum as a state memorial to honor the Vietnam War veterans of Maine.

RESOLVE 4 **Resolve, Requiring the Department of Transportation To Consider** **LD 50**
EMERGENCY **Replacement of the Waldo-Hancock Bridge**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BERRY WESTON	<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM	<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-23
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Resolve 2003, chapter 4 requires the Department of Transportation to undertake a process that conforms with federal law to determine a long-term solution to address safety concerns regarding the Waldo-Hancock Bridge. It requires that construction of a new bridge between Prospect and Verona be considered as one of the alternatives.

Resolve 2003, chapter 4 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 15, 2003.

Transportation

RESOLVE 9 **Resolve, Regarding State Designation of Memorials Honoring the Underground Railroad** **LD 152**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
YOUNGBLOOD PERRY J	OTP-AM	S-36

Resolve 2003, chapter 9 designates the Underground Railroad Memorial located in the Chamberlain Freedom Park in Brewer as the official state memorial to honor the Underground Railroad. It allows that, notwithstanding this designation, the Legislature may designate other monuments, structures or properties in other locations throughout the State as state memorials in honor of the Underground Railroad.

RESOLVE 19 **Resolve, To Rename the Paddy Hill Road in Medford the Clyde Hichborn Road** **LD 1329**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MARTIN DUPREY G	OTP-AM	S-78

Resolve 2003, chapter 19 renames the Paddy Hill Road in Medford the Clyde Hichborn Road.

RESOLVE 38 **Resolve, Requiring That Temporary Registration Plates Identify the Issuing Dealership** **LD 1427**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SNOWE-MELLO BENNETT R	OTP-AM	H-244

Resolve 2003, chapter 38 requires the Secretary of State to adopt routine technical rules to establish a process by which a temporary registration plate attached to a motor vehicle or trailer identifies the dealership that attached the plate.

Transportation

RESOLVE 94 **Resolve, To Ratify the Endorsement of the Towns of Otisfield and**
EMERGENCY **Harrison in Renaming the Bolsters Mills Bridge**

LD 1632

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BENNETT R HEIDRICH		S-270 HATCH PH

Resolve 2003, chapter 94 changes the name of the Bolsters Mills Road bridge between the towns of Harrison and Otisfield that crosses the Crooked River to Kerry Grover Memorial Bridge. The law also requires the affected towns to work with the Department of Transportation when placing the signs naming the bridge.

This law was passed as an emergency measure effective June 23, 2003.